

NEWS RELEASE

**INDIANA
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**



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Indiana releases July unemployment rate, June revisions

5.2 percent non-seasonally adjusted rate; 5.1 percent seasonally adjusted rate

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – According to preliminary figures released today by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the state's unemployment rate rose slightly in July, but continued to outpace its Midwest neighbors, the nation as a whole and last year's performance.

Complied in conjunction with the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics, the state's unemployment rate is derived from a national survey of about 60,000 households. Of that number, approximately 1,300 Indiana households are polled each month during the calendar week that contains the 12th day of the month.

Indiana's preliminary ***non-seasonally adjusted*** unemployment rate for July was **5.2 percent**, up from June's 4.7 percent (revised) figure but down compared to July 2003's 5.6 percent figure. At the same time, the U.S. non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was reported at 5.7 percent.

Indiana continued to outpace its Midwest neighbors in July, with Illinois reporting a 6.2 percent unemployment rate, Kentucky reporting its rate at 5.4 percent, Michigan's rate was 7.5 percent and Ohio saw 6.1 percent unemployment.

In July, the state's estimated labor force (non-seasonally adjusted), or the number of people 16 years of age and older who were able and available for work, totaled 3,224,800 (preliminary), up from June's 3,216,300 (revised) figure. An estimated 3,057,700 Hoosiers were employed and 167,100 were unemployed in July 2004.

"The slight increase in these numbers is common in July and doesn't come as a surprise," said Mike Draper, deputy commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "Each July we see a number of employers shut down temporarily to re-tool, do inventory or for model year changes, leaving their workers temporarily unemployed. This doesn't mean they've lost their jobs permanently, it simply means that when the surveys were taken many of those workers were not on the job and therefore weren't counted."

"The good news is that Indiana is in better shape than we were this time last year, and we continue to do better than the surrounding states and the nation," added Draper.

Using the same data, and adjusting the numbers for seasonal employment trends, the federal government reported that Indiana's July preliminary ***seasonally adjusted*** unemployment rate was **5.1 percent**, an increase from June's 4.8 percent (revised) rate, and down from July 2003's 5.5 percent figure. Meanwhile, the U.S. seasonally adjusted rate was **5.5 percent in July**.

Of Indiana's neighboring states Illinois reported a 6.1 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, Kentucky reported 5.3 percent, Michigan's July rate was 6.8 percent and Ohio's rate was 5.9 percent.

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Through its various programs and initiatives, the Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures, and operates a statewide job placement service.

For more information on Indiana's unemployment rate, contact the Indiana Department of Workforce Development at 1-888-WorkOne, or visit the web site at www.workforce.IN.gov.

Technical Notes:

- In calculating unemployment rates, two different types of numbers are provided. The first, known as the *non-seasonally adjusted rate*, estimates employment and unemployment without taking into account the effects of seasonal trends. In calculating the *seasonally adjusted rate*, or employment that follows more or less a regular pattern each year, holiday, summer or other types of seasonal employment is factored out of the estimate. These adjustments make it easier to observe the cyclical and other non-seasonal movements.
- The Household survey that calculates the unemployment rate is conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and is conducted during the week of the 12th of the month.
- For most accurate analysis, please use revised data sets and not preliminary estimates
- Unemployment rates for individual counties, cities and metropolitan statistical areas will be available on August 27, 2004.

INDIANA V.S. U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>	July 2004p	June 2004	July 2003
Indiana			
Labor Force	3,224,800	3,216,300	3,258,300
Employed	3,057,700	3,064,700	3,075,900
Unemployed	167,100	151,000	182,400
Rate	5.2	4.7	5.6

U.S.

Rate	5.7	5.8	6.3
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<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>	July 2004p	June 2004	July 2003
Indiana			
Labor Force	3,170,200	3,178,000	3,204,100
Employed	3,008,400	3,024,900	3,027,900
Unemployed	161,800	153,100	176,200
Rate	5.1	4.8	5.5

U.S.

Rate	5.5	5.6	6.2
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P= preliminary

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